First Congregational
United Church of Christ

111 S. Wallace Blvd. Ypsilanti, MI 48197
(Mailing Address: P.O. Box 980413 Ypsilanti, MI 48198)
www.ypsiucc.org

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

December 24, 2022
7:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve
“Come and See”

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey,
You are welcome here!

WORSHIP ON ZOOM -- Zoom opens at 9:30 am Sunday morning.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7643282234

Meeting ID: 764 328 2234
Passcode: Ypsi1882
To join by phone, dial the number, 1-312-626-6799

- Welcome to Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC's Hybrid Worship Service
- Hymns are included in the worship bulletin. A separate hymnal is not needed.
- If you are joining worship for the first-time on Zoom, please add your name and email to the chat so the Zoomie Greeter can introduce you.
- Thank you for choosing to worship with us today!

OPEN AND AFFIRMING COVENANT OF
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti celebrates everyone, including people of all ages, races, cultures, sexual orientations, gender identifies and expressions, family configurations, economic circumstances, physical, cognitive or emotional abilities, education or spiritual or religious traditions. All are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry, and missions of this church as we seek to grow together in a safe, nurturing community of faith. We strive to demonstrate in all ways that "NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!"

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME **PASTOR LIZ**

- **We are glad you are here to share in this special candlelight service celebrating the birth of Christ!**
- **Thank you to our Scripture Lesson Readers this evening: Ellie Gusman, Tiffanie Waldron, Carl Larrivee, Mary Ellen Smiley, and Lillian Long.**
- All persons are invited to participate in this community of faith.
- Roomies, if you did not pick up your battery-operated candle when you came in, please raise your hand, and our Roomie Greeter, Tad Wysor, will bring you one.
- Roomies, when it is time to sing "Silent Night, Holy night," the lights on this side of the sanctuary will be dimmed and it will be time to turn on your battery-operated candles.
- Zoomies, when it is time to sing "Silent Night, Holy Night," please dim your lights at home and light your candle (wax or battery-operated) and keep your microphone muted.
- Zoomies, please keep your microphones muted for this service, eliminating feedback and extending the bandwidth to improve transmission.

RINGING THE BELL **MARTY KLEINO**

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

"COME AND SEE"

OPENING READING *Responsive **PASTOR LIZ**

Leader: Come and see
Light to splinter darkness.

People: Hope to lift the soul.
Peace to ring in changes.

Leader: Grace resounds for all.
Night, the time for birthing.

People: Stars to guide us on.
Angels' voices singing, joining with our song.

Leader: Come and see the newborn
Come with new-found joy.

People: Come, for heaven's rejoicing …
Mary's infant boy!

CAROL *microphones muted *seated **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"
133NCH

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH **PASTOR LIZ**

Leader: Arise and celebrate: God loves the world; a child is born!
Here we are together celebrating what God has done through Christ,
even in a world caught between anxiety and hope.
We will never be alone.
May our remembering and celebrating change how we live,
opening our hearts and lives, so all can live and share in fullness of life.

All: God of our darkest nights and brightest days,
fill us with your hope as we celebrate with joy, the birth of Christ.
May familiar words speak to us with a new voice.
May the song of Bethlehem reach into our hearts.
This we ask in the name of Jesus, Light of the World. Amen.

FIRST LESSON **Isaiah 60:1-3** **ELLIE GUSMAN**

CAROL *seated **"On Christmas Night"** **TIFFANIE WALDRON**
143 NCH

SECOND LESSON **Isaiah 9:2,6** **TIFFANIC WALDRON**

CAROL *seated **"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"** **TIFFANIE WALDRON**
127 NCH

THIRD LESSON **Luke 1:26-33** **CARL LARRIVEE**

A READING **"Christmas Dreams"** **PASTOR LIZ**

Leader: Dreams fill these Christmas stories.
Dreams of blessing.
Dreams of warning.
Dreams of reassurance.

People: Real dreams.
In our world of ordered common sense,
Dreams are often forgotten in the morning light.

Leader: But tonight, Nativity invites us to open hearts, souls, and dreams.

People: And in our dreaming may we find the manger-child
Reaching out to us.

Fourth Lesson **Luke 2:1-7** **MARY ELLEN SMILEY**

CAROL *seated **"What Child is This"** **TIFFANIE WALDRON**
148 NCH

FIFTH LESSON **Luke 2:8-20** **CARL LARRIVEE**

CAROL *seated **"Angels We Have Heard on High"** **TIFFANIE WALDRON**
125 NCH

A READING **"So there We Are"** **PASTOR LIZ**

Leader: So there we are then, all that fuss…
Bright lights in the sky,
Angels' wings causing such commotion,
And for what?

People: So here we are then; all that effort…
Spent hillwalking to stable door
with no more to see than this?

Leader: Then here we are. Can we believe,
In such a rudimentary scene
lies one whose presence should cause such almighty fuss.

People: But here we are then,
And how tired she looks,
And he no less exhausted.

Leader: Perhaps they weren't expecting visits quite so soon.

People: So now we go then?
Our visit done, back to the sheepy-shrubland
And cold night air, to share our story there.

SIXTH LESSON **Matthew 2:1-12** **LILLIAN LONG**

CAROL *seated **"Joy to the World"** **TIFFANIE WALDRON**
132 NCH

SEVENTH LESSON **John 1:1-5, 10-14** **CARL LARRIVEE**

A TIME FOR SILENT REFLECTION **PASTOR LIZ**

PASTORAL PRAYER **PASTOR LIZ**

OFFERING INVITATION AND BLESSING **PASTOR LIZ**

Our electronic giving platform is Tithe.ly: Link to Tithe.ly

Please place in-person offerings in the gold offering place on the table by the door.

Checks can be mailed to:
First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Thank you for your generosity!

"Let us light our Christ Candles--so that gathered and sent out--the light of God's love shines brightly within and around us."

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST **PASTOR LIZ**

CAROL *Standing optional **"Silent Night 134 NCH** **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

BENEDICTION **PASTOR LIZ**

May the grace of God, star-forming Creator,
And the love of Christ, born amongst us,
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
Opening hearts and lives to hope and joy,
Be with us this night, this Christmastime,
And for evermore.
Amen.

TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD **PASTOR LIZ**

PASSING THE PEACE **FRIENDS GATHERED**

*Save Zoom Recording to Cloud (click "yes")

- Share a greeting with others as we transition to our casual **Friendship Time.**

Zoom Only Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Rev. Liz Larrivee, Pastor & Spiritual Director
Tiffanie Waldron, Music Director
Joshua Catania, Guest Accompanist

Jenn Zibbell, MID Ministry Intern

Marty Kleino, Usher & Bell Ringer
Tad Wysor, Greeter

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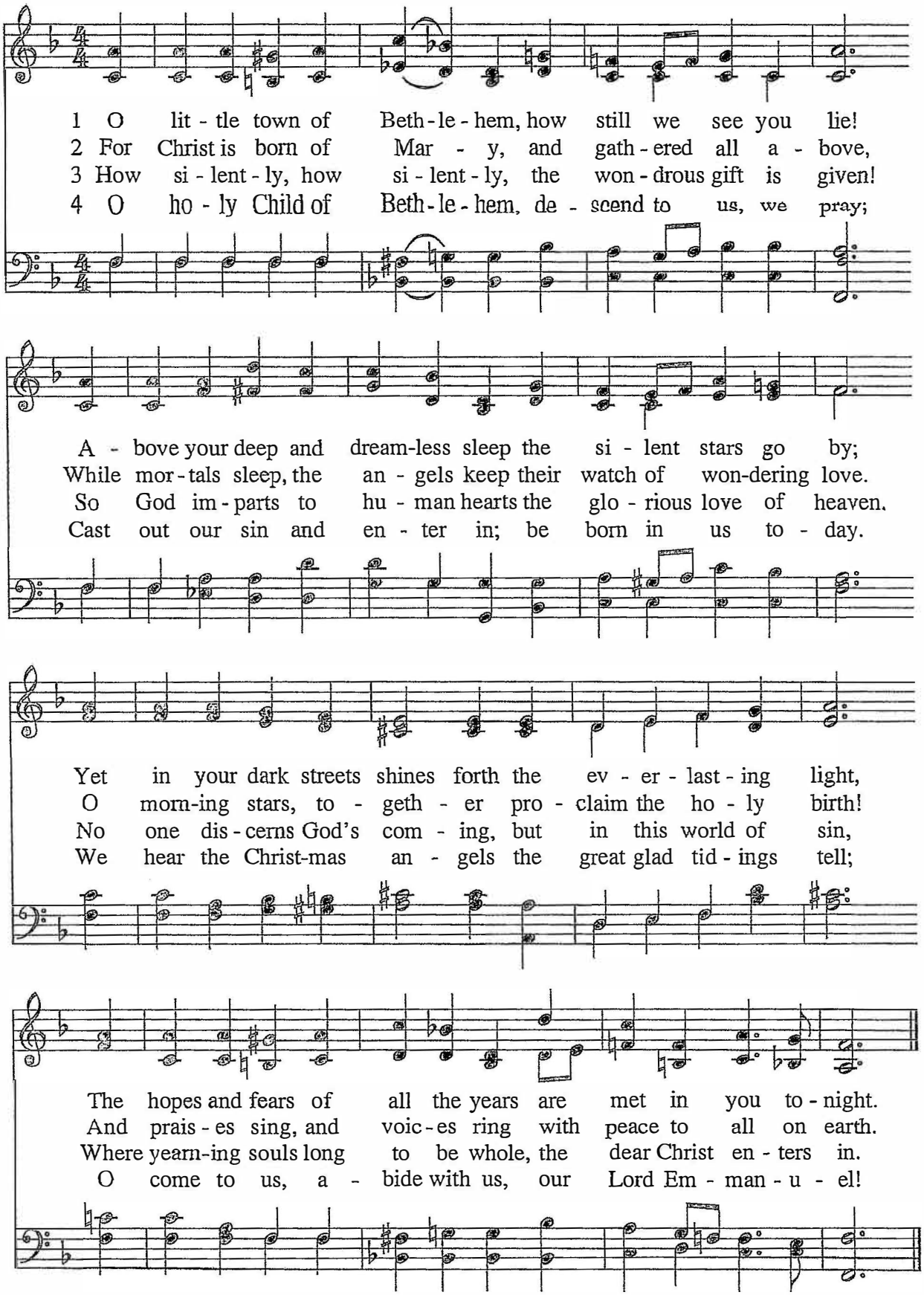
ATTRIBUTIONS FOR TODAY'S BULLETIN

- **Cover Art:** *Pinterest*
- **Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy:** Michael N. Jagessar, *United Church of Canada*
- **Liturgy of Lessons and Carols:** *Come and See* by Stephen J. Maunder. Adpapted.

133 O Little Town of Bethlehem

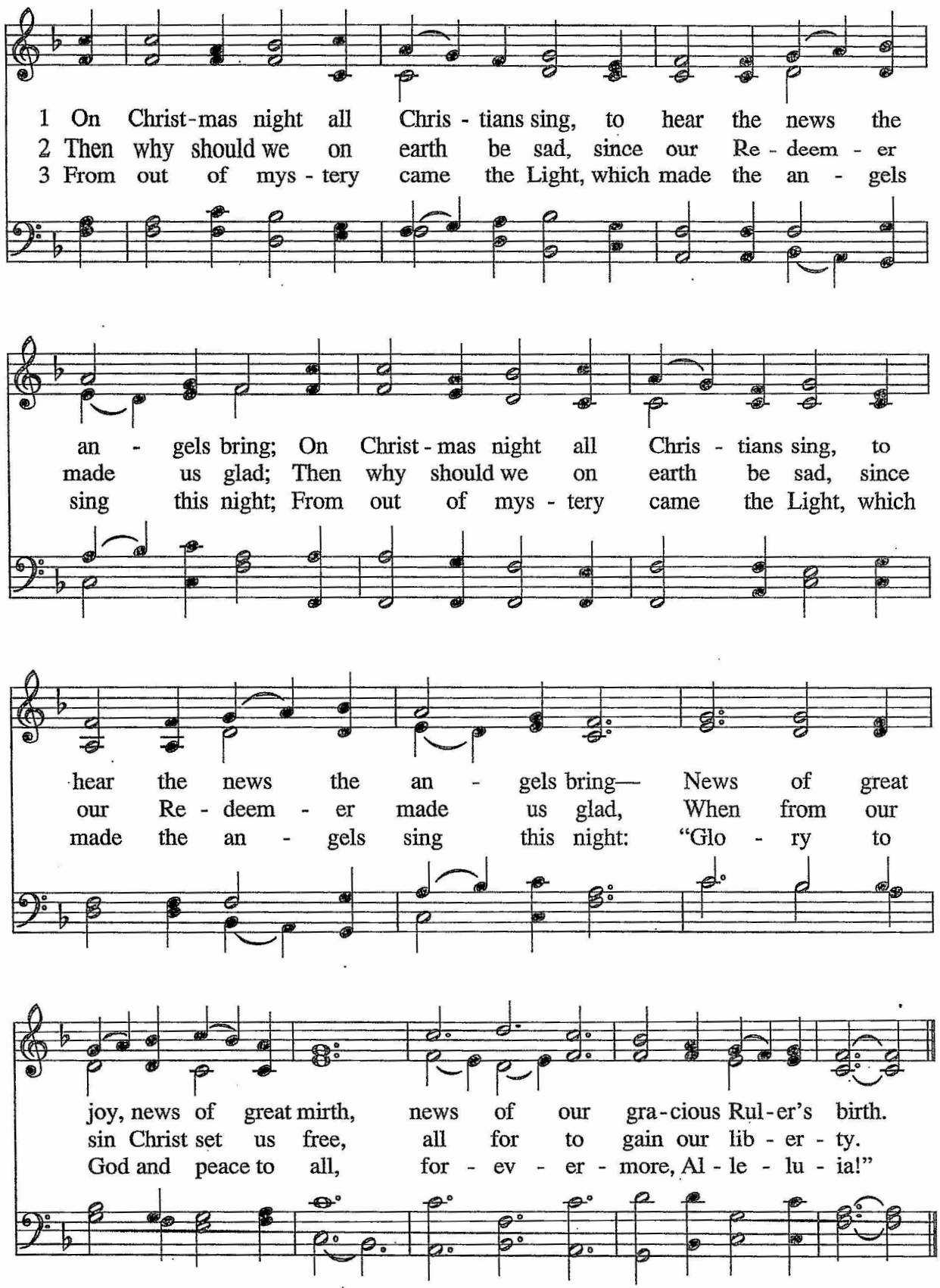
Mic. 5:2; Luke 2:4–7 *Phillips Brooks, 1868; alt.*


1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see you lie!
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and gath - ered all a - bove,
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;
A - bove your deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
While mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won-dering love.
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the glo - rious love of heaven.
Cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.
Yet in your dark streets shines forth the ev - er - last - ing light,
O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
No one dis - cerns God's com - ing, but in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ-mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in you to - night.
And prais - es sing, and voic - es ring with peace to all on earth.
Where yearn-ing souls long to be whole, the dear Christ en - ters in.
O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Inspired by a visit to Bethlehem, Phillips Brooks, minister of Holy Trinity Church, Philadelphia, wrote this hymn for the Sunday School's Christmas service. The tune was hastily sketched by the church organist in time for the service.

Tune: ST. LOUIS 8.6.8.6.7.6.8.6.
Lewis H. Redner, 1868
Alternate tune: FOREST GREEN

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing 143

Traditional English carol *Luke 2:8–14; John 1:1–5, 14; Acts 13:38–39*

1 On Christ-mas night all Chris - tians sing, to hear the news the
2 Then why should we on earth be sad, since our Re - deem - er
3 From out of mys - tery came the Light, which made the an - gels
an - gels bring; On Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing, to
made us glad; Then why should we on earth be sad, since
sing this night; From out of mys - tery came the Light, which
hear the news the an - gels bring— News of great
our Re - deem - er made us glad, When from our
made the an - gels sing this night: "Glo - ry to
joy, news of great mirth, news of our gra-cious Rul-er's birth.
sin Christ set us free, all for to gain our lib - er - ty.
God and peace to all, for - ev - er - more, Al - le - lu - ia!"

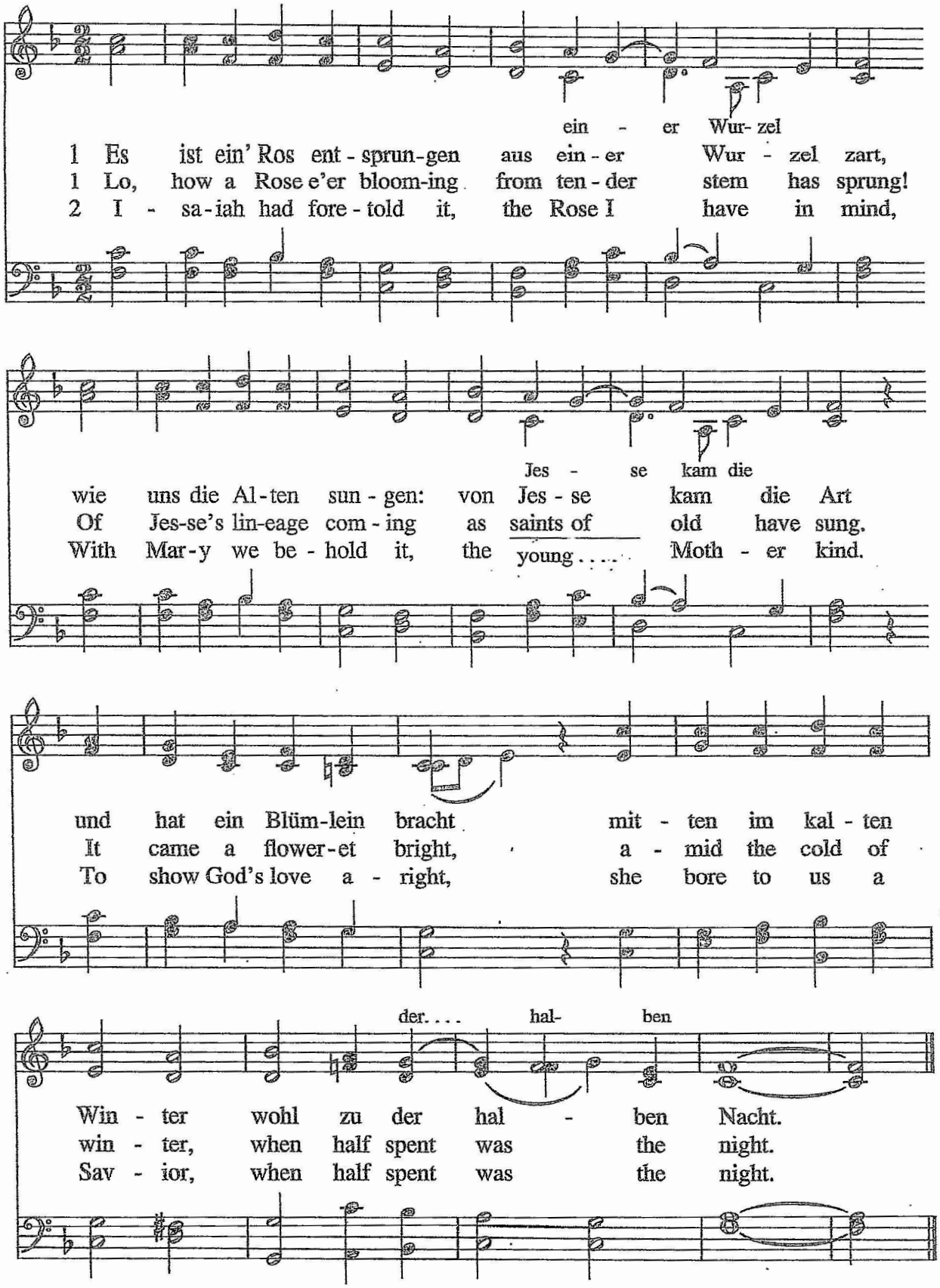
The Puritan era in England sent the medieval carols underground. Many were not rediscovered until the early twentieth century when Ralph Vaughan Williams, Cecil Sharp, and others began collecting them. This tune is one found by Vaughan Williams in Sussex.

Tune: SUSSEX CAROL 8.8.8.8.8.8.
English traditional melody
Harm. Jonathan McNair, 1993

127 Es ist ein' Ros entsprungen
(Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming)

Isa. 11:1

German, 15th century; transl. Theodore Baker, 1894; alt.


ein - er Wur- zel
1 Es ist ein' Ros ent - sprun-gen aus ein - er Wur - zel zart,
1 Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem has sprung!
2 I - sa-iah had fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind,
Jes - se kam die
wie uns die Al-ten sun - gen: von Jes - se kam die Art
Of Jes-se's lin-eage com - ing as saints of old have sung.
With Mar-y we be - hold it, the young . . . . Moth - er kind.
und hat ein Blüm-lein bracht mit - ten im kal - ten
It came a flower-et bright, a - mid the cold of
To show God's love a - right, she bore to us a
der. . . . hal- ben
Win - ter wohl zu der hal - ben Nacht.
win - ter, when half spent was the night.
Sav - ior, when half spent was the night.

Possibly dating from the fifteenth century, this anonymous hymn was first published in a Catholic hymnal in Germany, where the rose was held in special regard and was employed as a symbol for Mary or for Christ.

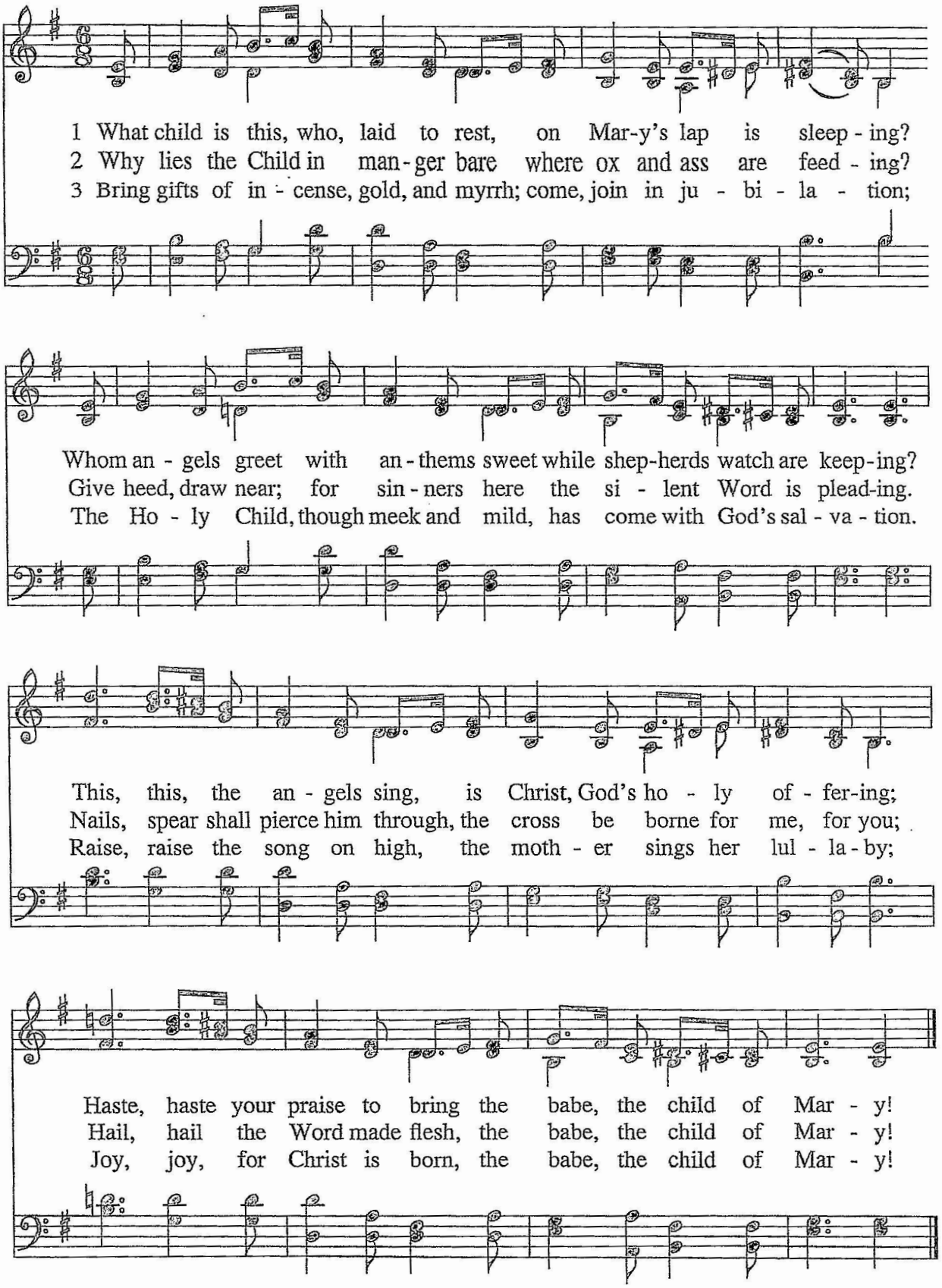
Tune: ES IST EIN' ROS 7.6.7.6.6.7.6.
Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng, *Cologne, 1599*
Harm. Michael Praetorius, 1609

What Child Is This

148

William C. Dix, 1865; alt.

Luke 2:7–14, 25–32; Matt. 2:11; John 1:14; John 19:16b–18, 34

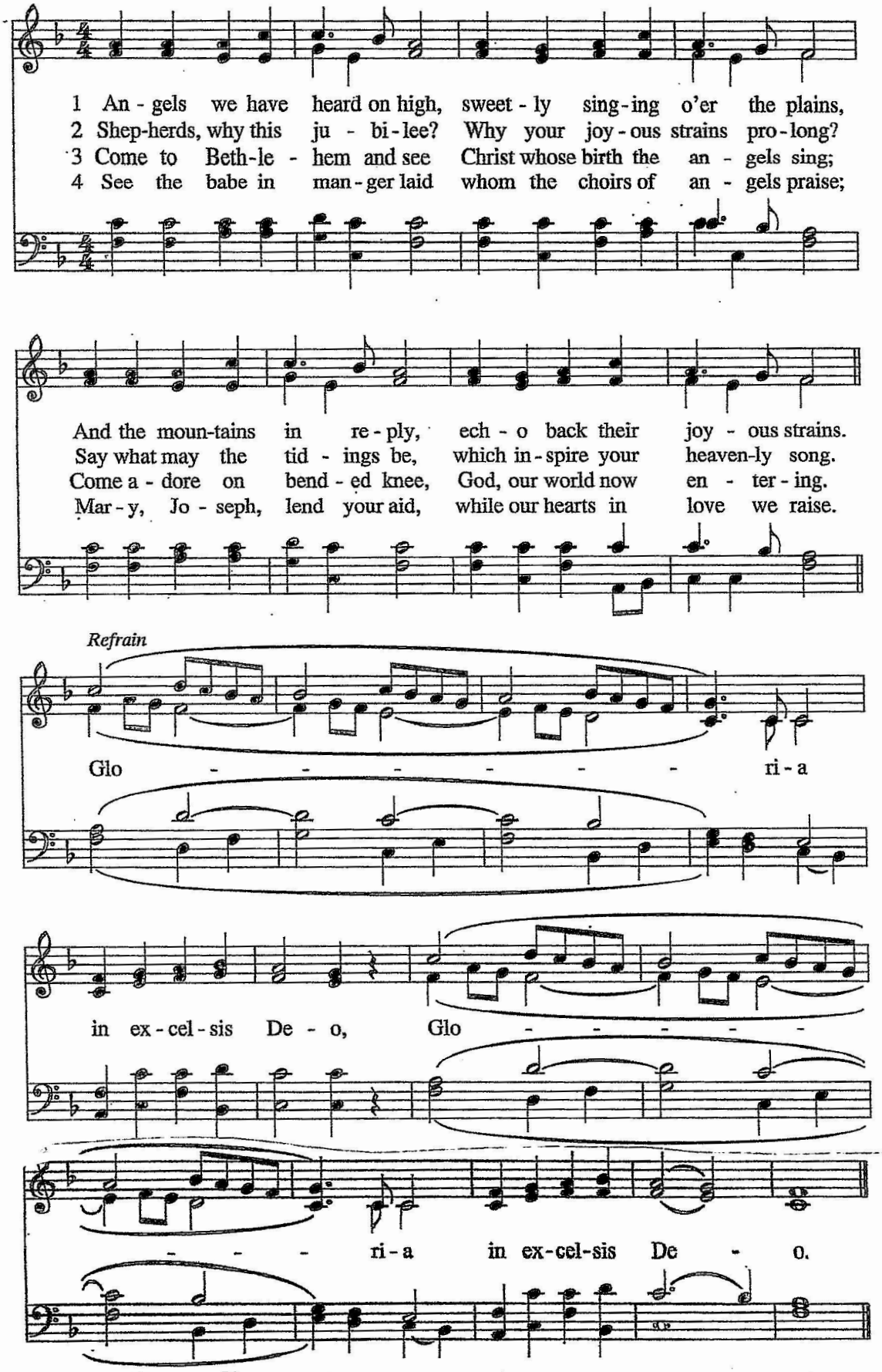

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep - ing?
2 Why lies the Child in man - ger bare where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3 Bring gifts of in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, join in ju - bi - la - tion;
Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?
Give heed, draw near; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing.
The Ho - ly Child, though meek and mild, has come with God's sal - va - tion.
This, this, the an - gels sing, is Christ, God's ho - ly of - fer-ing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the moth - er sings her lul - la - by;
Haste, haste your praise to bring the babe, the child of Mar - y!
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the child of Mar - y!
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the child of Mar - y!

William Chatterton Dix, manager of an English marine insurance company, wrote a number of fine hymns. This one is always sung to the tune Greensleeves, *which first appeared in England in 1580 and is mentioned in one of Shakespeare's plays.*

Tune: GREENSLEEVES 8.7.8.7.6.8.6.7. with refrain
English traditional melody, 16th century

125 Angels We Have Heard on High

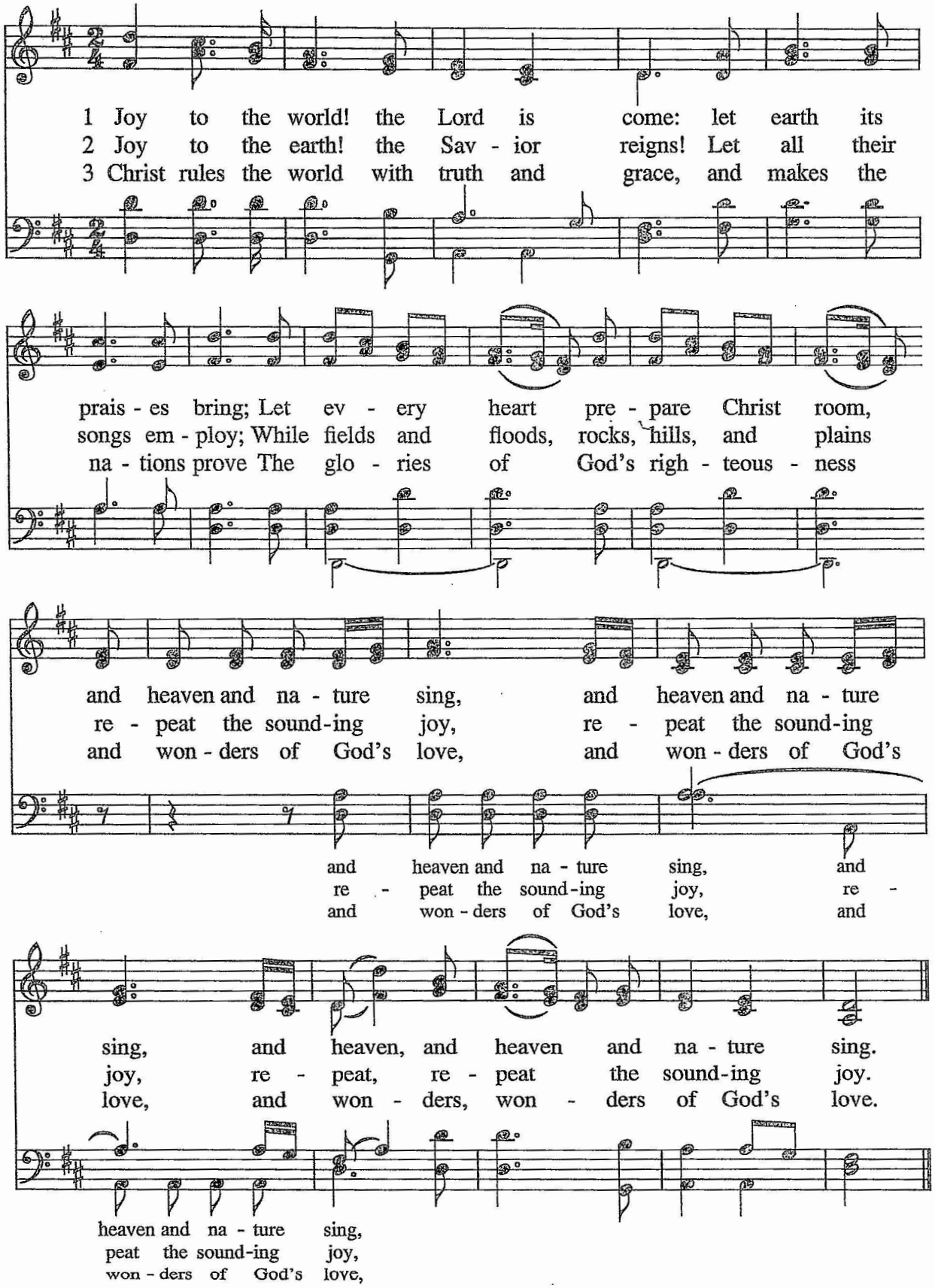
Luke 2:15

Traditional French carol
Transl. st. 1–3, "Crown of Jesus Music II," 1862; alt.
St. 4, "Carols Old and Carols New," Boston, 1916; alt.

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth-le - hem and see Christ whose birth the an - gels sing;
4 See the babe in man - ger laid whom the choirs of an - gels praise;
And the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
Say what may the tid - ings be, which in - spire your heaven-ly song.
Come a - dore on bend - ed knee, God, our world now en - ter - ing.
Mar - y, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.
Refrain
Glo - - - - - - ri - a
in ex - cel - sis De - o, Glo - - - - -
- - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Joy to the World!

132

Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

Ps. 98:4–9; Luke 2:11–15

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth its
2 Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
3 Christ rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the
prais - es bring; Let ev - ery heart pre - pare Christ room,
songs em - ploy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
na - tions prove The glo - ries of God's righ - teous - ness
and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
and won - ders of God's love, and won - ders of God's
and heaven and na - ture sing, and
re - peat the sound-ing joy, re -
and won - ders of God's love, and
sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound-ing joy.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of God's love.
heaven and na - ture sing,
peat the sound-ing joy,
won - ders of God's love,

Stanza 1 may be sung, "Joy to the world! the Sovereign comes: . . ."

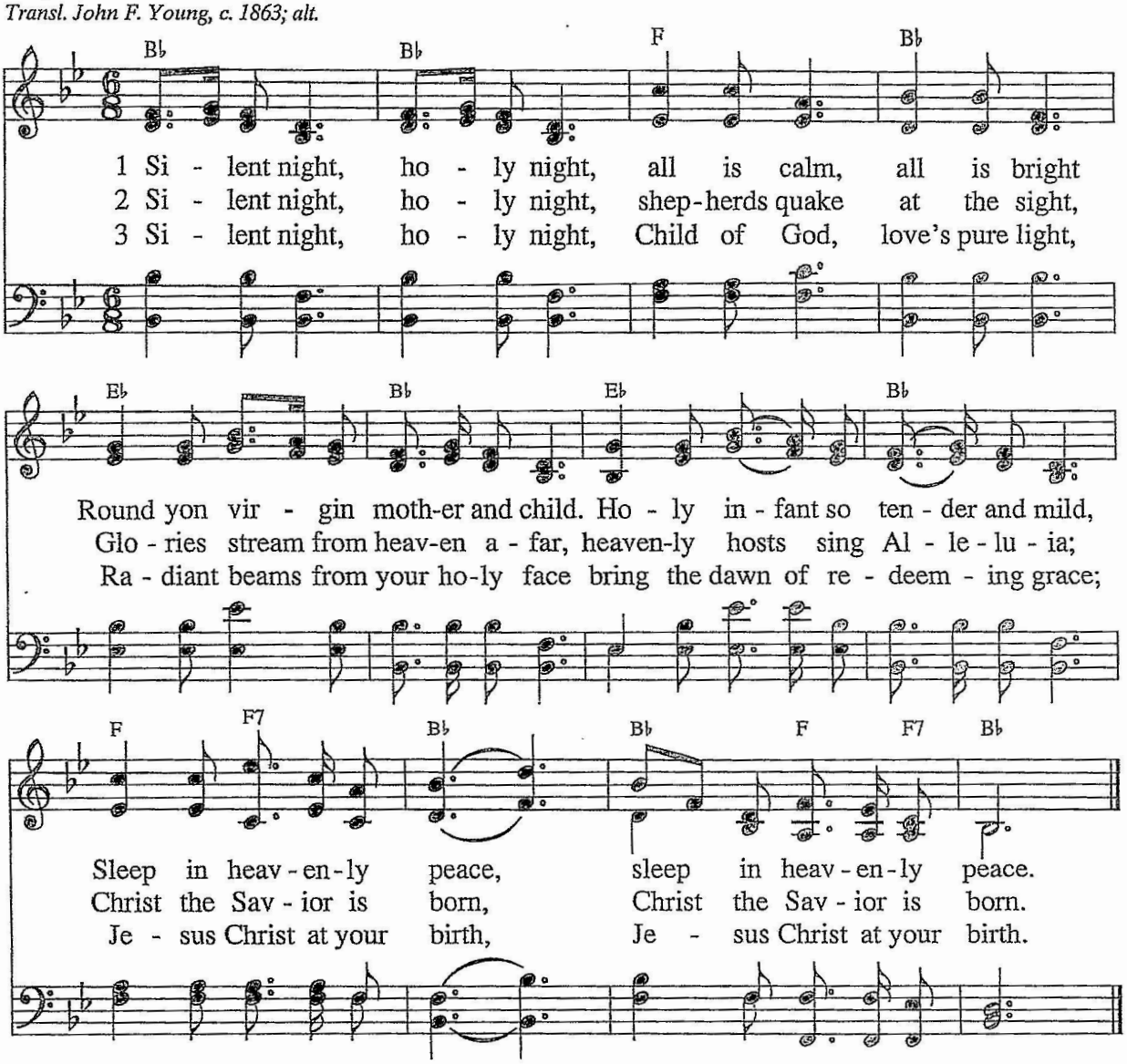
Isaac Watts, an English Congregationalist, freely paraphrased Old Testament psalms to glorify Christ and here develops a hymn of advent and nativity from a psalm.

Tune: ANTIOCH C.M.
Lowell Mason, 1836

Silent Night, Holy Night

134

Joseph Mohr, 1818
Transl. John F. Young, c. 1863; alt.

Luke 2:1–20

B♭ B♭ F B♭
1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm, all is bright
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep-herds quake at the sight,
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Child of God, love's pure light,
E♭ B♭ E♭ B♭
Round yon vir - gin moth-er and child. Ho - ly in - fant so ten - der and mild,
Glo - ries stream from heav-en a - far, heaven-ly hosts sing Al - le - lu - ia;
Ra - diant beams from your ho-ly face bring the dawn of re - deem - ing grace;
F F7 B♭ B♭ F F7 B♭
Sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born.
Je - sus Christ at your birth, Je - sus Christ at your birth.

Stil-le Nacht, hei-li-ge Nacht!
Al-les schläft, ein-sam wacht
Nur das trau-te, hoch-hei-li-ge Paar
Hol-der Kna-be im lock-i-gen Haar,
Schlaf in himm-li-scher Ruh,
Schlaf in himm-li-scher Ruh!
(Original German text by Joseph Mohr)

Po-la'i e, po kama-ha'o,
Ma-lu-hia, Ma-lama-lama,
Ka ma-kua-hi-ne a-lo-ha, e,
Me ke kei-ki He-mo-lele e,
Moe me ka ma-lu-hia la-ni,
Moe me ka ma-lu-hia la-ni.
(Hawaiian transl. Stephen Desha)

¡No-che de paz; no-che de a-mor!
To-do duer-me en de-rre-dor.
En-tre los as-tros que es-par-cen su luz,
be-lla, a-nun-cian-do al ni-ñi-to Je-sús,
bri-lla la es-tre-lla de paz;
bri-lla la es-tre-lla de paz.
(Spanish transl. Federico Fliedner; alt.)

Csen-des éj, szent-sé-ges éj!
Min-de-nek nyug-ta mély;
Nincs fenn más, csak a szent szü-le pár,
Drá-ga kis-de-dük ál-ma-i-nál.
Szent fi-ú a-lud-jál,
Szent fi-ú a-lud-jál!
(Hungarian transl. anon.)

This beloved carol was created when, the day before Christmas, the organ broke down in an Alpine village church. The priest, Joseph Mohr, gave a new poem to the organist, Franz Gruber, to be set to music. Gruber composed the music on the guitar, and it was sung with guitar on Christmas.

Tune: STILLE NACHT Irr.
Franz Gruber, 1818